

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 645

By Yager

A RESOLUTION to express support for the deregulation of the glider truck industry.

WHEREAS, the creation of jobs is essential to supporting the people of this state and to ensuring our economy's continued viability and prosperity; and

WHEREAS, one such industry that has contributed mightily to Tennessee's economy is the glider truck industry; and

WHEREAS, glider kits mix refurbished older components, including transmissions and pre-emission-rule engines with new frames, cabs, steer axles, wheels, and other equipment at a cost savings of up to 25 percent of the price of a new trailer truck; and

WHEREAS, the demand for glider trucks, glider engines, and glider kits has increased significantly since their introduction into the marketplace, with small businesses and owner-operators benefiting greatly from the cost savings; and

WHEREAS, unfortunately, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has targeted glider vehicles, glider engines, and glider kits by applying the agency's greenhouse gas Phase 2 emissions standard to the industry; and

WHEREAS, manufacturers of glider kits throughout the country have been forced to close facilities and terminate significant numbers of their employees as a result of the Phase 2 emissions standard; and

WHEREAS, in 2017, the EPA drafted a rule that would effectively deregulate the glider truck industry, a move that would enable manufacturing facilities to begin producing glider kits again and create much-needed jobs in the process; however, the agency has failed to implement the new rule; and

WHEREAS, governors throughout the United States have called on the EPA to implement the rule to deregulate the industry, but the EPA has done nothing to effectuate the rule; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED ELEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we support the deregulation of the glider manufacturing industry in this state, a move that would certainly enhance our economic development and prosperity.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we hereby urge the Environmental Protection Agency to implement the rule developed in 2017 to deregulate the industry.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a certified copy of this resolution be transmitted to the administrator of the EPA and to each member of the Tennessee Congressional delegation.